Lee County Advisory Meeting  
October 28, 2010

Members present: Frank Thompson, Wayne Watson, Ann Clarke, Reuhl Dabolt, Marvin Joyner, Ralph Upton, Jane Barringer, Sam Buchanan, Charles Oldham, Jim Foster, Donese Pulley, John Cameron, Alan Cox, Brenda Willett, Avron Upchurch, Sylvia Churchwell, Mary Beth Jackson, Dale Hulsey, Wesley Faw, Nancy Gust, Myrna Rodriguez

Staff present: Susan Condlin, Stephanie Romelczyk, Bill Stone, Seth Holt, and Rhonda Gaster

Minutes: The July minutes were distributed at the meeting. Ann Clarke made a motion to accept the minutes. Charles Oldham seconded the motion. All approved. Motion passed.

Treasurer’s Report – The balance in the NCCE, Lee County account is $9,334.38. We did receive $1,500 from the Sanford Lions Club for the partnership in the Lee Regional Fair. Ralph Upton made a motion to accept the treasurer’s report. Wayne Watson seconded the motion. All approved. Motion passed.

Report from the State Advisory Board – Sylvia Churchwell reported the State Advisory Council met in Ashe County October 12-14, 2010. Dr. Zublena gave the legislative update…the University could see a 10% cut in the budget. Extension is hoping our cut will be less.

Counties are going to social networking, ie. Facebook, Twitter. She was pleased to share that Lee County now has a Facebook page.

District Advisory Leadership Meeting – Lee, Moore and Richmond Counties will host the South Central District Advisory Leadership meeting on Friday, January 28, 2011 in Lee County at the Dennis Wicker Civic Center. The South Central District consist of the following counties: Anson, Bladen, Cabarrus, Columbus, Cumberland, Harnett, Hoke, Lee, Montgomery, Moore, Richmond, Robeson, Scotland, Stanly, Union. We need your assistance to make this a successful event. Volunteers will be needed to greet, help with registration, and give directions and other areas as needed. Please set this date aside and plan to attend.
Report of the Nominating Committee – Charles Oldham, chairman, presented two nominees on behalf of the committee: Avron Upchruch - Chairman and Jim Foster - Vice-Chairman. He asked for any nominations from the floor. There were none. The Council agreed on chairman and vice-chairman.

Recommendation of New Members – Avron Upchurch presented several members for recommendation to the Lee County Extension Advisory Council:
Frank Thompson, retired, past Board of Education Member – At large member for a 3-year term
Marvin Joyner, President of the Sanford Lions Club – by position
Wesley Faw, Agriculture Teacher at Lee County High School – by position
Donese Pulley, retired Coordinator for Warren Williams Child Development Center – At large member for a 3-year term
Sam Buchanan, NC Forest Ranger with NC Forest Service – by position
Myrna Rodriguez, 4-H Club Leader – At large member for a 3-year term
Grace Lawrence – Working Lands Protection – At large member for a 2-year term

The council accepted all new member recommendations.

Rotation Appointments – Committee members slated to go off the Council and who desired to continue were asked to draw a term. The following at large members were selected for the terms and are eligible for an additional 3-year term, if they choose to remain on the committee after their term expires:
Jane Barringer – 1 year term
Mary Beth Jackson – 1 year term
Reuhl Dabolt – 2 year term
Phil Griffin – 2 year term
Jerry Lemmond – 2 year term
Jim Foster – 3 year term

These terms are effective January 1, 2011.

Social Media – Stephanie Romelczyk reported North Carolina Cooperative Extension in Lee County has a Facebook page. Stephanie showed the committee the Facebook page using the LCD projector. This is a way to get news to people other than the newspaper. Pictures of events may also be added to the page. She encouraged the committee to become a fan of North Carolina Cooperative Extension in Lee County on the Facebook page. To log in to our Facebook page go to http://www.facebook.com/ Search for North Carolina Cooperative Extension – Lee County.

FCS Centennial – Susan Condlin stated in 2011 FCS would be 100 years old. Home Economics started with the Tomato Club Home Demonstration Club. At the peak, Lee County had 54 home demonstration clubs in the county. Lemon Springs Club was started in 1929 and is the oldest active club in our county. A 300-page coffee table book will be available for sale and will document the FCS program. Each county will have one page about their history. FCS is raising funds for this book. Lee County has been asked to give $1,000. Broadway Town Council voted to give $100, Farm Bureau will give $500 and the Lee County Livestock Producers will give $100. Marvin Joyner made a motion
to give $100 to the NCFCS Foundation in support of the FCS/ECA History Book from the Extension Advisory Council. Ralph Upton seconded the motion. All approve. Motion passed. FCS has a 60-second commercial that will air during the Extension Today program on the local channel, WBF-TV 46 through Charter Cable. There will be a FCS Gala May 25, 2011. Mark your calendar and plan to attend.

**Request for Funding/Garden Shed** - Stephanie Romeleczyk stated she worked with the Maters and Taters 4-H Club to design and implement a landscape design around the storage shed. The total cost for the project was $323.02 and included plants, mulch and landscape fabric. The club would like to be reimbursed from the McSwain Extension Research and Endowment Income Account for their expenses. Currently there is $3975.55 in the account. Wayne Watson made a motion to take $323.02 from the McSwain Extension Research and Endowment Income Account to reimburse the Maters and Taters 4-H Club. Jane Barringer seconded the motion. All approved. Motion passed.

**Farm-City Week Activities** – Seth Holt shared with Council members the Farm-City Week promotional flier. He gave an overview of the events. The Farm-City Week Banquet will be held Monday, November 22, beginning at 5:30 pm. Tickets for the banquet are $7 each. The speaker for the banquet will be Julian Philpott, Secretary and General Counsel for North Carolina Farm Bureau Federation. An Elected Officials Tour will be on Tuesday, November 23 at 7:30 am. The tour will depart from the Extension Center by 7:45 am to visit Ragan Farms and Jane Barringer’s forestland. The Ladies Luncheon will be held Wednesday, December 1. All advisory members are encouraged to attend all events.

**Agent Program Updates and Success Stories**

Bill Stone – 4-H
- Summer Fun program wrapped up
- Community Garden has ended for the winter
- Character Education – Working with Edwards, Greenwood, Bullock and Deep River Schools – Ralph Upton volunteers at Edwards Elementary, Jim Foster volunteers at Deep River Elementary and Sylvia Churchwell volunteers at Greenwood Elementary
- Currently there are 12 4-H Clubs in Lee County
- If you know of a civic club that would like to meet with children, talk to Bill

Stephanie Romeleczyk – Horticulture
- Working with the Forestry Advisory Council to schedule meetings for the new year
- Had a Forestry Association meeting in September and a Timber Workshop
- Local coordinator for the 10% Campaign – This is a statewide program led by the Center for Environmental Farming Systems (CEFS) with support from the Golden LEAF and NC Cooperative Extension. The campaign is promoting to spend 10% of your food dollars on local food. If we spend 10% on local foods, $20,000,000 would be generated in our county. Locally grown means from NC – Restaurants
and businesses are encouraged to get involved and buy locally. You can make the choice to make a difference and make it local. To sign up, go to:  
www.nc10percent.com

Seth Holt – Crops and Livestock
- Spoke at the Livestock Producers Meeting
- Will focus on more youth involvement in agriculture
- Would like to see more field research done in Lee County

County Extension Director’s Update
- Lee Regional Fair was held in September. Extension works to showcase agriculture and domestic skills.
- Dr. Jon Ort retired – NCCE formed a Search Committee and from the interviews, three nominees were selected. Johnny Wynn, Dean has put it on hold. Will start the process again in January and hope to have the position filled by July.
- Possible 10% budget cut to the University in 2011. The state is 3 billion, possibly 4 billion in the hole. State agencies could be asked to cut 10, 15 or 20 percent. The University is hoping for only 10%. It is important to educate the new comers going into legislative offices about Extension.
- Kay Morton, Extension Secretary has been elected President to the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Secretaries Association.
- FCS Centennial is in 2011. She is currently serving as the co-chair for the Centennial. There will be a Gala in May.
- Donald Nicholson, Agriculture Advisory Board Chairman, was unable to join us today with an update on the VAD. Currently 13 landowners with 1,870 acres have been enrolled in the VAD.
- Each of you received a copy of the LINK Newsletter. Members were encouraged to read this publication. Sylvia Churchwell is the editor.

Concerns or comments from the Advisory Members – Marvin Joyner, Lions Club President, thanked Cooperative Extension for all their hard work at the Lee Regional Fair.

Meeting adjourned at 6:00 pm.

Prepared by:
Rhonda Gaster
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